

Serial No.: 09/745,091

Attorney Docket No.: 00P7662US01**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carter et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,266,782 ("Carter"). Applicant notes that Carter is assigned to Siemens Information and Communication Networks, Inc., the assignee of the present application. Carter constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e); pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 103(c), Carter does not preclude patentability under Section 103. Copies of the assignments for Carter and the present application are appended. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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